

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FBO-02 A-01 /014 W

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R 080825Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3619

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, ABLE

SUBJECT: HOUSING

REF STATE 26458

1. APPRECIATE FULL DISCUSSION OF HOUSING MATTERS CONTAINED
REFTEL.

2. RE PARA ONE REFTEL, WE HAVE LEASED ONE FURNISHED TWO-
BEDROOM WHITTAKER APARTMENT FOR FSO-6 JAMES A. LAROCCO,
ASSISTANT COMMERCIAL OFFICER, EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1 AT
\$1,200 MONTHLY. SINCE RENTAL ARRANGEMENT POSSIBLE ON ONLY
A MONTH-TO-MONTH BASIS, WE ARE COVERING BY PURCHASE ORDER.
REQUEST EMBASSY PROGRAM ALLOTMENT BE INCREASED \$6,000
TO COVER RENTAL THROUGH FY 1976. WE DO NOT KNOW AT THIS
TIME WHEN ADDITIONAL WHITTAKER APARTMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE.

3. RE PARA TWO REFTEL. GENERAL ELECTRIC REPRESENTATIVES DISCUSSED
POSSIBLE HOUSING CONSTRUCTION ON COMPOUND WITH AMBASSADOR
AND EMBASSY OFFICERS FEBRUARY 4. GE IS DEVELOPING PACKAGE
FOR DIRECT SUBMISSION TO NEA/EX SO DECISION CAN BE MADE
IN WASHINGTON.

4. POLYFAB COMPANY MENTIONED PARA TWO REFTEL HAVE SENT
LETTER TO EMBASSY SAYING THEY ARE INTERESTED BUT THEY
HAVE OFFERED NO CONCRETE PROPOSAL.

5. MANY QUESTIONS RAISED PARA THREE REFTEL CAN ONLY BE
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ANSWERED IN WASHINGTON. REGARDING WHETHER COMPOUND CAN

SUPPORT ADDITIONAL HOUSING WITH RESPECT TO WATER, POWER AND SEPTIC SYSTEMS, ANSWER IS YES; BUT IT WILL REQUIRE ADDITIONAL POWER AND WATER SOURCES. \$250,000 FIGURE MENTIONED PREVIOUSLY AS NECESSARY FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IS BASED ON REASONABLY SOUND PROJECTION WHICH INCLUDES ROAD NETWORKS, GRADING, POWER LINES, WATER AND SEPTIC SYSTEMS, TELEPHONE HOOK-UPS, LANDSCAPING, ETC. FOR MINIMUM TEN HOUSES AND SIX STAFF APPARTMENTS. (THESE SIX STAFF APARTMENTS WILL BE USED BY OCCUPANTS OF ONE COMPLEX OF PRESENT STAFF APARTMENTS WHICH ARE TO BE CONVERTED TO OFFICE SPACE.)

6. WE DO NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE IT PRACTICAL TO CONSIDER LEASING COMPOUND OUTSIDE OF TOWN. FYI: LAND VALUE NEAR NEW AIRPORT LOCATION 20 MILES FROM CITY IS OVER \$100,000 AN ACRE. TO GET COST FIGURES ON RIYADH HOSPITAL COMPLES, SUGGEST YOU CALL CLYDE PLUNKEET WHO IS NOW IN U.S. HIS TELEPHONE NUMBER IS AVAILABLE IN FOREIGN SERVICE LOUNGE.

7. RE PARA FIVE REFTEL. CAGNE OFFICER WHO TELEPHONED ADMIN COUNSELOR WAS WILLIAM R. VITOUS. SINCE GREEN LIGHT NOW GIVEN ON HOLDING TRADE FAIR ON COMPOUND (USDOC 1714, FEBRUARY 3) PERHAPS FORST INTERNATIONAL WILL ERECT THE TWO BUILDINGS MENTIONED JIDDA 3470. BUT KEEP IN MIND OUR CAUTIONARY NOTE PER JIDDA 0759.

8. WE SHALL KEEP YOU APPRISED OF ANY NEW BREAKTHROUGHS ON HOUSING. WE LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSING THIS AND OTHER MATTERS WITH VIRGINIA SCHAEFER LATER THIS MONTH.
PORTER

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